National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 6, 2008

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT:

Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at the Newseum

Broadcast on November 13, 2008

On November 13, 2008, at 1:30pm the Newseum in Washington, D.C. is hosting an event to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 8 mission. The crew of Apollo 8 will participate in the event, which will be broadcast from the Newseum.

Invitees in addition to NASA employee, include respresentatives of the private sector, Newseum staff, other specially invited guests, and members of the general public. The Newseum charges \$13-\$20 for admittance to the general public; and invitees will be offered attendance free of charge. The auditorium at the Newseum has a capacity size of 500. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the broadcast. The event will allow NASA employees the opportunity to discuss with other guests the accomplishments and progress of the Space program, as well as other aspects of common interest. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the Newseum may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and their spouses or guests.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Newseum, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Adam F. Greenstone